

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 108458  
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-11 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 /088 R

DRAFTED BY OASD/ISA:TPHDUNLOP:KS  
APPROVED BY EUR/RPM:SJLEDOGAR  
OASD/ISA  
EUR/RPM:JAFROEBE  
EUR/SE:MLISSFELT  
DOD/ISA:MGEN. BOWMAN  
DOD/ISA:MGEN. BOWMAN  
-----082138 280538Z /21

P R 280124Z APR 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA PRIORITY  
INFO USMISSION USNATO  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
USNMR SHAPE BRUSSELS  
USNLRSA CLANT  
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES  
USDELMC BRUSSELS

S E C R E T STATE 108458

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AWACS, NATO, CENTO, IR, TU

SUBJECT: NATO AWACS: FURTHER TURKISH QUERIES

REFS:

A) ANKARA 2934 (DTG 171055Z APR 78);  
B) STATE 090645 (DTG 080126Z APR 78);  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 108458

C) ANKARA 2363 (DTG 301045Z MAR 78);  
D) USNATO 4204 (DTG 051719 APR 78)

1. IN PARA 2 FOLLOWING ARE OUR RESPONSES TO FURTHER  
TURKISH QUERIES ON NATO AWACS POSED BY GOT OFFICIAL GUR IN  
CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF ON 13 APRIL. WE ARE PLEASED  
AT THIS EVIDENCE OF SERIOUS TURKISH INTEREST IN THE

SUBJECT, AND TRUST IT INDICATES TURKS WILL BE WILLING TO MAKE A PROGRAM COMMITMENT AT THE MAY DPC. IN CONVEYING FOLLOWING TO GOT, EMBASSY MAY WISH TO SUGGEST THAT USAF WOULD BE PLEASED TO HOST A VISIT BY TURKISH MILITARY OFFICERS WHO WILL HAVE DIRECT OPERATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES IN THE NATO AWACS PROGRAM FOR DISCUSSIONS OF OPERATIONAL CONCEPTS. THIS MIGHT BE A VERY USEFUL SUPPLEMENT TO THIS ON-GOING EXCHANGE OF Q'S AND A'S THROUGH THE EMBASSY.

2. ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS KEYED TO PARA 2 REF A:

A. WE INTENDED TO RESPOND TO TURKISH CONCERN ABOUT FORCE SIZE FLANK COVERAGE IN OUR ANSWER IN PARA 4(A) REF B. THE PRINCIPAL POINT WE WISH TO MAKE IS THAT WE ANTICIPATE A NATO AWACS FORCE COMPONENT OF 18, NOT 16, AIRCRAFT. OUR RECENT CONTACTS WITH BOTH ITALIAN AND FRENCH REPRESENTATIVES, WHILE NOT PROVIDING CONCLUSIVE EVIDENCE THESE COUNTRIES WILL MAKE A SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO MAKE POSSIBLE AN 18-PLANE FORCE, HAVE NEVERTHELESS BEEN MOST ENCOURAGING. WITH REGARD TO POSSIBLE AUGMENTATION OF THE NATO AWACS FORCE BY US NATIONAL AWACS IN TIMES OF TENSION/CRISIS, WE INTEND THAT THE US NATIONAL AWACS FORCE WILL BE FULLY INTEROPERABLE WITH THE NATO FORCE. NO DECISIONS HAVE, HOWEVER, YET BEEN MADE ON THE OPERATIONAL DEPLOYMENT OF US NATIONAL AWACS TO EUROPE, WHETHER  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 108458

FOR PEACETIME TRAINING OR CRISIS AUGMENTATION. WE CAN ONLY SAY AT THIS JUNCTURE THAT IN PERIODS OF TENSION OR CRISIS ALLOCATION OF AWACS WILL BE A FUNCTION OF BOTH THE NATO AND US EVALUATION OF THE EXISTING THREAT AND COMPETING NEEDS.

B. WE ARE CONFIDENT THAT DATA GENERATED BY NATO AWACS WILL BE EQUALLY AVAILABLE TO ALL PARTICIPATING NATIONS. THE ACCESS POINT FOR AWACS DATA WILL NOT NORMALLY BE AT THE FORWARD OPERATING BASE (FOB)/ FORWARD OPERATING LOCATION (FOL). BUT RATHER WILL BE THOSE ACE AIR DEFENSE ENVIRONMENT SITES WITHIN THE COMMUNICATIONS ENVELOPE OF THE AIRBORNE AWACS USING JTIDS OR, IN THE INTERIM, UHF/HF TADIL A (LINK 11). DIRECT DATA LINKS BETWEEN AIRBORNE SYSTEMS (E.G., OTHER AWACS, E-2C, NIMROD) CAN FURTHER EXPAND THE AREA FROM WHICH DATA CAN BE DEVELOPED AND DOWNLINKED INTO THE ACE AIR DEFENSE GROUND ENVIRONMENT. FURTHER, CROSS-TELL CAPABILITY EXISTS AMONG VARIOUS NATO SYSTEMS. FINALLY, AS REF D POINTS OUT, LANGUAGE IS BEING INCORPORATED IN THE PACKAGE PROPOSAL (PO/78/18) SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED TO ENSURE UNIMPEDED ACCESS TO

AIR SPACE, LANDING RIGHTS, AND AWACS DATA FOR THE ALLIANCE AND EACH MEMBER THEREOF. YOU CAN ASSURE THE TURKS THAT IF GREEKS SHOULD ATTEMPT TO COMPLICATE THIS ISSUE, THE US WOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE THAT THE PROBLEM WAS RESOLVED IN THE SPIRIT AND TO THE LETTER OF THE LANGUAGE NOW BEING DISCUSSED IN BRUSSELS (PARA 4 REF E).

C. EXISTING DATA "TIES" SHOULD ENSURE THAT TURKISH MILITARY AUTHORITIES HAVE ACCESS TO EARLY WARNING INFORMATION IN CENTRAL EUROPE AND OTHER SOUTHERN FLANK AREAS. NADGE CROSS-TELL CAPABILITIES CAN "LINK" TURKISH AND ITALIAN NADGE SITES IN MUCH THE SAME MANNER THAT DATA WAS PASSED FROM ITALY  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 108458

TO THE FRG DURING THE 1975 EUROPEAN DEMONSTRATION. IN ADDITION, EXPANDED COVERAGE CAN BE ACHIEVED THROUGH USE OF RELAY TECHNIQUES BETWEEN AIRBORNE C2 SYSTEMS OR THROUGH LONG RANGE HF (LIND 11) DATA LINKS.

3. FYI. AS EMBASSY WILL RECOGNIZE, TURKISH REFERENCE TO POTENTIAL INTEROPERABILITY BETWEEN NATO AWACS AND IRANIAN AWACS SURFACES FOR THE FIRST TIME AN INTERESTING AND COMPLEX ISSUE. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE EMBASSY SHOULD ENCOURAGE TURKISH SPECULATION ALONG THESE LINES, BUT BY THE SAME TOKEN IT IS NOT INCONCEIVABLE THAT A RELATIONSHIP MIGHT BE WORKED OUT MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL TO THE IRANIANS AND TO NATO. WE THINK BEST TACK TO TAKE IF -- AND ONLY IF -- TURKS ASK US OUR OPINION ABOUT THIS -- WHICH WE UNDERSTAND THEY HAVE NOT -- WOULD BE TO POINT OUT THAT THIS WOULD BE A MATTER FOR THE ALLIANCE AS A WHOLE TO DISCUSS, AND THAT IT SHOULD BE RAISED, IF AT ALL, BY THE TURKS IN BRUSSELS. THERE WOULD BE TECHNICAL AND COST OBSTACLES TO MAKING NATO AND IRANIAN AWACS INTEROPERABLE IN SO FAR AS SECURE DATA AND VOICE LINKS WOULD BE REQUIRED. BECAUSE US POLICY REGARDING CRYPTO RELEASE PROHIBITS EXPORT, THE IRANIAN SECURE LINKS WILL BE PROTECTED BY U.S. COMMERCIAL ENCRYPTION SYSTEMS WHICH WILL NOT BE INTEROPERABLE WITH STANDARD U.S. ENCRYPTION DEVICES, OR THE NATO AWACS FORCE. THESE SYSTEMS WILL HOWEVER, BE DESIGNED TO FIT STANDARD E3A INCASEMENTS AND PURCHASE OF THESE INCODERS WOULD MAKE SYSTEMS INTEROPERABLE. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT INTEROPERABILITY COULD BE ACHIEVED IN A CLEAR MODE USING EXISTING VOICE OR DIGITAL DATA EQUIPMENT WHICH WILL BE COMMON TO ALL E3 AIRCRAFT. WHILE THIS  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 05 STATE 108458

MAY NOT BE AN ACCEPTABLE PRACTICE DURING ROUTINE  
OPERATIONS, IT NONETHELESS EXISTS AS AN EMERGENCY  
CAPABILITY DURING CRISIS. END FYI.

VANCE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AWACS, POLICIES, ALLIANCE, AIR DEFENSE, WARNING SYSTEMS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 apr 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE108458  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** TPHDUNLOP:KS  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780181-0773  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t1978044/aaaaacxe.tel  
**Line Count:** 180  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 115801ab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN EUR  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08 jun 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2917132  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NATO AWACS: FURTHER TURKISH QUERIES  
**TAGS:** MARR, IR, TU, NATO, CENTO  
**To:** ANKARA  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/115801ab-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014